

BEFORE THE JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION
STATE OF FLORIDA

INQUIRY CONCERNING JUDGE SUPREME CT. CASE NO. SC01-2670
CHARLES W. COPE; JQC
No.: 01-244,

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ORDER SCHEDULING HEARING AND PREHEARING CONFERENCE

A hearing before the JQC Hearing Panel on the Formal Charges in this matter is scheduled for Monday, April 15, 2002. This hearing will occur in a courtroom to be announced in the Pinellas County Courthouse, Clearwater, Florida, to begin at 9:00 a.m. The members of the Hearing Panel are (1) Judge James Jorgenson (Chair), (2) Judge Peggy T. Gehl, (3) attorney John Frost, (4) attorney Martin Garcia, (5) lay member Bonnie Booth and (6) lay member Reverend Randolph Bracy, Jr. All pleadings are to be filed in the Florida Supreme Court and copies of all pleadings shall be served on the Chair of the Panel and on all attorneys and other persons on the attached list.

A preliminary telephonic prehearing conference is scheduled two weeks before the hearing on March 18, 2002 at 3:00 p.m. The call-in number is (850) 425-5429 at the office of attorney John Beranek who is counsel to the Hearing Panel. A court reporter will be provided by the JQC and counsel will be furnished copies of the transcript. At least 7 days before the prehearing conference (March 11, 2002), counsel shall, by fax or delivery, provide the Chair and all other counsel with a Prehearing Statement containing schedules of all of the witnesses to be

called and all of the exhibits to be introduced as they are known to counsel. The subject matter of the testimony of each witness shall be stated in the schedule and if there are objections to any exhibit, then a list of each objection shall be included within the schedule. These schedules may be supplemented only in accordance with future orders of this Panel.

Before the preliminary telephonic conference of March 18, 2002, counsel shall confer concerning the anticipated hearing and be prepared to discuss and make commitments concerning the following:

(1) Length of trial. Counsel shall state their good faith estimates of the time required to try the case by the prosecution and the case by the respondent.

(2) Factual stipulations. Counsel are urged to stipulate to facts which are not genuinely contested and to be prepared to give details on such factual agreements at the conference.

(3) Discovery. Counsel shall complete all depositions, including the deposition of the Respondent Judge, prior to the conference of March 18, 2002. Counsel shall disclose any further depositions and discovery that are agreed upon and show good cause why this discovery was not completed in a timely manner.

(4) Undisposed of motions and other issues. Any undisposed of motions shall be argued at the preliminary conference and shall be delivered to opposing counsel and the Chair at least 7 days before the conference. Counsel shall further advise of the nature of any particular legal issues which are anticipated to arise and require rulings at the final hearing.

(5) Amendments to charges and defenses. If there are any proposed amendments to the charges or the defenses, they shall be filed at least one week prior to the conference and may or may not be allowed by the Chair.

(6) Inspection of and objection to exhibits. Counsel shall exchange all exhibits before the preliminary conference for inspection by opposing counsel. Counsel shall confer concerning their objections and if there are unresolved objections to any proposed exhibits, a schedule of those objections shall be furnished one week before the preliminary conference.

(7) Limitation on witnesses. Pursuant to the general policy of the Hearing Panel, the parties are notified that at the formal hearing the Judge will be limited to a total of three live character witnesses. In addition to these witnesses, affidavits as to character may be filed by the Judge and will be

considered by the Hearing Panel. Counsel will also be called upon to consider other appropriate limitations on witnesses.

SO ORDERED this 15th day of February, 2002.

**FLORIDA JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS
COMMISSION**

By: s/s/ JAMES R. JORGENSEN
JUDGE JAMES R. JORGENSEN,
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Copies furnished in accordance with the attached list.

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